

"There Are None So Blind As Those Who Will Not See"

THE SCOPE

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SPRING ISSUE

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HOW BABIES LEARN TO SEE

Babies can not really "see" until they are three weeks old. It takes that long for the function of sight in the new-born infant to begin to adjust itself to the light. This is brought out by Dr. Park Lewis, Vice-President of the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, in "Hospital Topics" (Buffalo). We do not actually see with our eyes, but they help us to see with our minds, according to Dr. Lewis. Our quotations are from an abstract of his article sent out by the society named above. We read:

"The infant coming into the world requires for certain functions, months and, for others, even years, before they are prepared for their proper uses. The fibers of the optic nerve which carry the consciousness of light to the brain at first are not completed until three weeks after birth. It is the light which favors their development. The center of acute vision, the fovea, first attains its full development some months after birth. The iris or colored part of the eye, the central opening of which is the pupil, may not reach its complete development until the seventh year. As structure must be completed before function can be safely exercised, the necessity for care in the use of the eyes during these early and plastic years must not be forgotten.

"Just as all forms of life have required, before they reached their present condition, ages for their development and adaptation to present needs, so the individual comes into the world incomplete, and requires a long period of training and adjustment before he reaches his highest development. Sometimes there can never be as complete development of certain individuals as there is in their normally formed fellows.

"The new-born child is simply a bundle of potentialities. Millions of nerve-cells must be activated before they are prepared to carry the light impulses back to the brain centers to be interpreted into visual terms. The eyes of all white babies at birth are blue. They have not yet become deeply pigmented as many of them will at a later date.

The eyeballs move vaguely at first, and during the early days they look almost blindly around them. They are unseeing eyes, but there is answer-

ing intelligence within, the image of the object before the child conveys nothing to him.

"A lamp held before the face of the child will, in the course of a week or so, be followed by the eyes waveringly and indefinitely. It probably appears to the infant, whose intelligence has not yet become awakened, as a mere blotch of orange color. Gradually, as the weeks go on, the more definite and brilliant objects as they are presented before the baby, begin to excite, feebly at first, a sense of interest and curiosity. They appear very faint at first, but gradually increase, and with the increase comes a rapid gain in the perspective faculties. Through the eyes a pathway is being made to the mind.

"Out of the darkness—through the twilight—the babe is coming in contact with a new world; a new life is opening before him. Energy is stimulated and effort is excited. The impressions of moving objects about the room gradually take on more definite form, but for many months the little creature is merely a bundle of automatic reactions.

"If, after intelligence has become somewhat aroused, in place of the lamp an orange is held before the child's eyes, the blur which was at first that of the yellow light begins to take on form, and the little undeveloped being begins to note that the object is round and that it has a striking color. Later, the baby fingers touch it and another series of sense impressions are awakened. The orange drops to the floor with a dull thud, and the auditory centers respond. Later the sound will be recognized, not as that of broken glass, nor of a falling book. It is the sound peculiar to the falling fruit and to nothing else. Then the skin is broken, and the fragrance reaches the nerve endings within the nose. The sense of smell is being stimulated. A new memory impression has been given, adding to the multitude that are now pouring in on the baby's readily responsive senses. Then the juice of the fruit is put on the infant's tongue, and a complex of all of those qualities that go to make up the orange—those of light, of hearing, of smell, of touch and of taste—have been so impressed on his memory centers that they will never be eradicated while each nerve

fiber can carry its message. At last, the baby reaches around the orange, and he will have made a great discovery—he has learned of the existence of depth. He is not living in a flat world but one of three dimensional spaces, and in learning this he has made an immense stride in the newly acquired knowledge to which he is now rapidly adding every hour.

"Every time a known object is brought into sight, memory impressions are shot from one brain center to another with a degree of energy far exceeding that of the busiest telephone exchange.

"The way in which sight is developed is of great importance, because in its functioning, not alone during babyhood but as well during adolescence and middle life (even in old age), many changes in essential structures may be effected. In order that this may be better understood, let us briefly consider how the eyes work that we may see.

"It may seem a little startling to those who have not thought of it, that we do not see with our eyes; we see with our minds. The eyes are so constructed that they convey light impressions by way of the optic nerves to the back portion of the brain. There they make an impression on the nerve cells very much like that on the ground glass of a camera.

"When this impression is carried back to the brain, it will have no meaning until it shall have been interpreted by another part of the brain. So in a perfectly normal condition we may have 'eyes which see not.' We may look in the face of a friend and be thinking of something else and it will make no impression on us. It will be, indeed, as tho he were not there. Only when by an effort of the mind we 'fix' the impression, and through an act of memory relate it to the person whom we see, does the image in our eyes have any meaning for us.

"As we walk through the streets, the images of the objects that pass before our eyes make a series of moving-pictures, but for the most part they are ignored and make no impression on us. We give no thought to them. The importance of this is very great from an educational view-point. So much of our visual training is unassociated with mental activity as to make it unproductive. There are certain conditions in which injuries within the brain, such as hemorrhages, may so interfere with the connection between the seeing part and the memory centers that an object previously familiar may be clearly seen but will have lost its meaning. People in that way sometimes lose the faculty of reading, altho the type may be clearly seen, the intelligence unimpaired, and the ability to write unaffected. So it will be well to bear in mind constantly that the function of vision when not physically obstructed is maintained and developed by its intelligent use, and that it may be seriously impaired by the failure to properly care for and use the delicate tissues of which the eye and the nerves connecting it with the brain are formed."

In the days of the hoop skirts we hardly knew a girl had insteps—now we know she has stepins.—Phoenix Flame.

SENIORS ATTEND BOSTON OPTOMETRIC SESSION

Seniors at the Mass. School of Optometry are more than indebted for the kindness shown by the Boston Society of Optometrists, in allowing the Seniors the opportunity of attending regularly the clinic sponsored by the society for the giving of eye assistance to worthy cases recommended.

The Clinic is open four days a week, so arranged as to take place morning, afternoon, and evening, to accommodate all who seek help. Through the arranging of the school schedule the students are able to attend the various days, giving them the opportunity of meeting all the various presiding doctors and thus becoming more familiar with the men in practice as well as observing their methods and technique.

Usually there are four seniors assigned who are divided among the various doctors present, helping them in the way of assistants, such as taking down of records, etc., as well as noting proper methods of handling patients in the examining room.

The Clinic itself is equipped with the most modern and complete of optometric instruments, including phoroptors, phorometers, visual acuity charts, compimeters, perimeters — corneal microscopes and ophthalmoscope. The Kratometer is also extensively used.

It is easily seen that much in the form of knowledge is to be gained by the students in their attending regularly, with their contact with these prominent men—many who are graduates of our own school.

The tremendous success which the Clinic has made is more than indicative that the public is becoming more learned as to the proper men to see for correct eye examination and assistance. However the main success does not lie alone in the clinic but in the staff who manage it, men and women who give untiringly of their valuable time for the benefit of those in need—they include such men and women as Doctors Doane, Gassett, Wells, Paddelford, Brown, Pierce, Fowler, Baker and many others.

—A. B. T.

M. S. O. ALUMNI MEETING

The Alumni Association of the Mass. School of Optometry held its initial meeting of this year at the Hotel Biltmore in Providence, on Feb. 16, 1931.

Those present actively entered into the business of the evening, proving that the Association is growing with leaps and bounds with much of interest to look forward to.

Following the meeting Dr. Arthur O. Bruce of Boston, gave an interesting lecture on diseases of the eye, followed by a period of discussion which proved both instructive and entertaining.

Those who were unable to attend missed without doubt the best meeting yet held. The Rhode Island members are more than to be praised for the interest and time given toward the further progress of the association—however we don't want the burden only on certain members so get going all of you fellows and past graduates and send in for your membership today.

A. E. W., M. B. D.

Timely Optometric Treatment

Jack Weinraub

One of the greatest gifts of nature to mankind is the power of vision. The eyes are truly the windows of life. The power of sight enables us to perform all the functions of life. The eye is the most important agency in the development of the human brain. Is it any wonder that Optometry holds such an important position in our present day affairs. The fact that about thirty million people, or one quarter of our total population, wear glasses justifies the importance of optometry.

Let us stop for a moment and consider how little attention we give our eyes, when they play such a prominent part in our daily existence. They begin to work from the first moment you arise in the morning to the very last moment you retire at night. In the daily routine of our work, in most instances, the eyes are forced to function under artificial illumination resulting in eye-strain. The eyes are, probably, the most neglected part of the human system, which is appalling when one considers the enormous amount of work placed upon them and the vast amount of suffering as a direct result of this neglect. The demands of our present day civilization are especially severe on the eyes. Nature never intended the human eye to be put to the strain imposed on it by existing conditions. Close application from eight to ten hours a day is certain sooner or later to develop some form of eye trouble. Eye strain is the cause of physical and mental ills, various types of headache, and frequently results in stomach disorders and nervous conditions. The effects of eye strain will often lower the general efficiency of an individual. The danger arises when a great many people who suffer from any eye discomfort, rely too much on home remedies and on the generous advice of a friend which invariably proves fatal. They will continue to endanger their eyesight until such time when they learn to consult an optometrist immediately when the first symptoms of any eye defects manifest themselves. They should not delay in having their eyes examined until some form of blindness forces them to take action, at which time it is often too late to restore or improve vision. Optometrists are urging periodical eye examinations, so that latent defects may be discovered and steps taken to prevent their development.

The disastrous effects of eye-strain on school children is a pathetic situation. Often as a result of the suffering of children from some form of eye defect makes it imperative to have these children removed from school, thus directly interfering with their intellectual development. No child can be really well or succeed in school who is handicapped by poor vision. This condition has proven to be detrimental to the future success, health and happiness of the child.

Many people are suffering through life with some form of eye trouble, rendering them irritable and inefficient because of their failure to care for their eyes.

To maintain your greatest efficiency, to enjoy

New England Convention

The New England Council of Optometrists Convention held at Hotel Statler on March 9, 10, and 11, proved to be a very interesting one to the students of the school who attended. We are very grateful to those who, by special arrangements, made it possible for us to attend.

There were no lectures on the program which were not of value to us in some way, although some may have been more interesting than others. Of particular interest was the lecture by Dr. Goldman on "Relation of the Eye to some General Medical Diseases," in which he pointed out conditions, causes and symptoms of such diseases as diabetes, nephritis, acidosis, syphilis, etc. Dr. Ruth Seabury gave some good points on correct correspondence in her lecture on "Reports to Accompany Our Referred Cases."

The lecture by Dr. Julius Neummeller of Penn. State College of Optometry, on "Fusion Training and Ablyoscopic Technique," proved to be one of the most practical of the whole convention. It was spicy with wit and intensely interesting.

Of nearly equal interest were lectures by Dr. Edwin Tait, also of Penn. State College, and Dr. Charles Sheard from the Mayo Foundation at Rochester, Minn. Dr. Tait spoke on "Muscle Work in Terms of Physiology and Psychology" and Dr. Sheard lectured on "Ocular Comfort" and "The Laws of Supply and Demand in Refraction." There were other lectures by Dr. Feinbloom of Columbia University, Dr. Garfin of Harvard, Dr. Paddelford, President of the Boston Society of Optometrists, and Scott Sterling of the Bausch and Lomb Company, who kept the attention of the listeners to the last.

The displays by the American Optical Co., G. M. Smith Optical Co., Shur-On, Standard and Gem Optical Company were all of great interest and a good deal of time was taken to get "the latest dope" on instruments, lenses, frames, etc. As future Optometrists, we found the men in charge very willing to be of any service.

—D. A. H.

I never had such a tough time in my life. First I got angina pectoris, then tuberculosis, pneumonia and finally appendicitis. I don't know how I ever pulled through. It was the hardest spelling test I ever had.

Whatever trouble Adam had,
No man in days of yore
Could say when Adam told a joke:
"I've heard that one before."

Men may have their failings, but they don't kiss when they meet on the street.

the maximum comfort and health give your eyes some consideration by obtaining proper and timely optometric treatment.

SENIOR NEWS

The month of March, with exams, convention, etc. along with our regular work, has kept us pretty busy.

Speaking of the convention, Preble was talking with a supposed salesman, telling him what he thought was one fault of the Tair retinoscope. "Imagine my embarrassment," said Preble, "when I found I was talking to Dr. Tait himself!"

Forgues found a lot of pleasure in trying out the various instruments, chairs, etc. He claims that when he looked thru the telescope, he saw Baer tipping the cheek girl. Real or virtual, boys?

"Throw away your glasses!" says Cahill. At least, that's what he says he's going to do if he breaks his Rx again. He thinks three times is enough to break one pair of glasses. Sounds like at least two times too many, anyway.

Several fellows from the Senior class spent the week-end after exams at home. Hilliard and Biscornet went to New Hampshire, and Skillings headed for Maine.

Wordell is another fellow who spent the week-end, but not at home. Kingston, R. I., seems to hold a great attraction for him.

And it seems from the attendance the Monday following exams, as if the rest of the class found the exams such a strain that they had to have an extra day to recuperate.

After tackling Professor Blodgett's last brain teaser, the class is unanimous in deciding that whoever invented Theoretic Optics ought to be forced to try some of his own problems.

At a class meeting held on Thursday, April 2, committees were appointed to take full charge of the school banquet, to be held some time in May. The Seniors on the committee are Weinraub, Dunbar, Hilliard, Trombley and Masters; the Juniors are represented by Pride, Asarkoff, Montminy, and Lesteh. The entertainment committee is composed of Schurgin, Bradley, and C. Baker. This is going to be a bang-up affair, and everyone should be present.

P. S.—Have you seen Betty?

JUNIOR NEWS

Whether or not there is any connection between Optometry and Bowling is questionable. But the fact remains that some Juniors are trying to emulate the master, Dr. Klein, in this diversive sport.

And they are improving rapidly too. Among the better bowlers are listed: Charlie Proulx, Dick Baker, Dave Blanchard, Foster Namias, Wen Manning and Sol Lesteh.

Cross-examination

Messrs. C. W. Pride and C. M. Baker, Co-defendants: "Where were you on the evening of March 10, 1931 between the hours of 8 and 12 P. M.?"

Think fast now, boys!

It is only the ignorant who despise education.

FRATERNITY NEWS

A short business meeting was held at the school on Thursday evening, March 5. At the close of the meeting the members adjourned to the well known noon hour of amusement, where bowlers, one and all try in vain to better Dr. Klein's three string alley record.

Smokes were enjoyed and an amusing time was had watching the embryonic bowlers' timorous efforts. Dave Blanchard was the high scorer of the evening winning the string with a tally of one hundred and eleven points.

Harken Brethren and Alumni Members!

The annual spring dance of the fraternity is to be held at the Hotel Fritz Carlton on Friday evening, April 16, 1931. This dance is to be open to Alumni and to all members of the school, and promises to be the most brilliant social affair of the school held in many a year.

The Committee in charge is exerting itself to the utmost and promises us an enjoyable evening. Favors are to be presented to the feminine contingent and if necessary support is given by all alumni and members we are sure that this affair will prove a success.

One for the Book

Dr. Klein: "Mr. Warsaw, how do you account for the missing lenses in the school's trial cases?"

Warsaw: "They aren't returned to their proper place."

Dr. Klein: "Mr. Kaminsky, what reason can you give for students not returning lenses to their proper place?"

Kaminsky: "The student's have trial cases of their own at home."

According to the wails of woe emitted over the recent ratings Dame Spring must be credited with an early season knockout.

John Leggat and Al Carter are the "quiet boys" of the class. They never say much but they see plenty.

Be sure that the School Banquet gets a clear field in your appointment book as we are expecting the Juniors to respond 100 per cent strong at this function.

"Smiling Tom" Sheerin is a true exponent of wholesome Gaelic wit. You just can't catch him napping!

Mr. Blodgett's class is a study in human psychology and a good one too!

The Junior Bowling Team lost its first match to St. Clement's Bowling Team of Somerville, Thursday, April 2, 1931.

Tell a woman she has a beautiful nose and she will get cross-eyed from constantly looking at it.

ALUMNI NEWS

A section of the Carbone Jewelry Co. on School St., Boston, has been taken over by James S. Gray, class of '29. Up-to-date equipment has been installed and the optical department shows great promise.

J. Arthur Bainton, class '30 is connected with H. Prest, Olneyville Square, Providence, R. I.

Bradford Burgess, '30 is in the employ of his father at Rockland, Me.

George R. Cronin, '26 is doing well in his practice at Waterbury, Connecticut.

Word that Ogden Carr, '29 is doing well in business has reached us, and we are pleased to hear the good news.

Weston R. Dennis, '30 had a narrow escape recently. His newly established business was close to being wiped out by a fire nearby.

Russell Johnson, '28 is a proud daddy. A son christened "Lawrence Frost Johnson" put in an appearance in February. Another prospect for the M. S. O.

Frederick Carey, '28 recently opened offices in the city of Newburyport. Congratulations are in order.

T. Blake Smith, '28 purchased an established business in Cambridge. Wishing you success.

Jack Dybbs, Morris Berman and Hyman Hyde, class '30 were recent visitors at the school.

Barney Fritz, '29 recently opened an ethical practice in Winthrop, Mass. We're all happy to hear the good news.

Ethan A. Flanders, '30 paid us a short visit convention week. He is looking forward to a prosperous year in his newly equipped offices at Burlington, Vermont.

Ralph Green, '29 is doing well these days taking care of his offices on Huntington Ave., Boston, and using his spare time teaching at the school.

Maurice Kraft, '26 still holds full sway at Houghton's with Philip Quinn '29 running a close second.

Robert Parsons, '27 has opened a practice in his home in Quincy, Mass. Our wish for success is yours.

"Pete" Rogers, '28 is sojourning in Canada. On his return to this country he will open offices in Maine. Incidentally, "Pete" and Miss Gladys Rowell of Skowhegan, Me. announced their engagement recently. Congratulations.

Our deepest sympathy is extended Edwin Ramos, '30 on the recent death of his father.

The offices of John & Peter Walsh, 58 Exchange St., Lynn, were completely demolished by a fire which swept the downtown district recently. May we extend a word of sympathy, and hope you will be re-established in a very short time.

Harvey Foote, '23 was a recent visitor at the school.

The sympathy of the faculty and student body is extended to Dr. Bigelow Hanson on the recent death of his wife.

On the evening of April 16th a very interesting affair is to take place in the form of a "get-together" social at the Fritz-Carlton Hotel. Both Senior and Junior classes are putting in a lot of time and energy to make this one glorious affair that will not be forgotten during the lazy summer months. Melvin Dunbar, '31 is in charge of the committee appointed to handle affairs.

Harry Perkis, '28 paid us a visit last week. From all appearances Harry is getting along famously. He seems to be putting on a little avoirdupois. What's the matter, did your pen run dry, Harry?

James Arseneault, '27 is in the employ of Henry Johnson, 120 Tremont St., Boston. We trust you are doing well, James.

Hyman Klibanoff, '27 has taken over the optical department in Kaplan's Jewelry Store, Providence, R. I.

Edwin Ramos, '30 is planning to take the New Jersey Board this month. We wish you luck, Ed.

Harry Bass, '30 is doing well in his practice at Norwich, Connecticut.

Raymond Brown, '30 seems to be getting along famously at Bath, Maine.

Diana Kalfayan, '28 is still with the Rodenstock Co. in Long Island, New York, but we believe she still keeps a warm spot in her heart for Boston.

The widow of Dr. Theodore Miller, well known Boston Optometrist, has endowed the school with a number of books, the property of her late husband. This library is in the form of a memorial and will be dedicated to the school in the near future in the interest of the students.

"Hello, is this you Rubin?"

"Sure, it's me."

"This is Rubin Baer I'm talking to?"

"Yes, yes. What do you want?"

"Well, Rubin, I want to borrow fifty dollars for—"

"All right. I'll tell him as soon as he comes in."

TO-LET

Established Optometrist's office to-let in fine looking brick building with imposing entrance in South Boston. Signs already set up. Large handsome room. Location best in busy section. Rent very reasonable, \$25 per month.

Call Aspinwall 7078 for further particulars, or write Miss S. D. Rothwell, 32 Mason Terrace, Brookline.

Epitaph

Here lies an Optometrist,
laugh, if you will,
In mercy, kind Providence,
Let him lie still.

He lied for his living,
He lived while he lied,
When he couldn't lie longer,
He lied down and died.

"There, now," exclaimed a little girl, while rummaging a drawer in the bureau, "grandpa has gone to heaven without his spectacles."

Mrs. Newbride: "I'm bothered with a little wart I want to have removed."

Dr. Pullen: "You'll find the divorce lawyer on the top floor."

"Ah done bin down to one o' desecheah optimists an' got me a new set ob glasses," said Rastus, "I sho' can see good now."

"You mean optometrist, don't you, Rastus? An optometrist fits you up with glasses; an 'optomist' is a man who thinks everything is going to come out all right."

"Da'ss him," beamed the man of color. "He done trusted me fo' de glasses!"

Masters: "And who made the first cotton gin?"

Cahill: "Heavens! Are they making it from that, too?"

Daughter (after getting a new mink coat as a birthday gift from father):

"I don't see how such a wonderful fur can come from such a low, sneaking little beast."

Father: "I don't ask for thanks, dear, but I do insist on respect."

After covering some twelve miles on foot back and forth and around the display model in the salon, the patient salesman had nearly completed demonstrating the car to the fair prospective buyer.

"Now," asked the prospect at last, "are you sure you have shown me all the principal parts and features of the machine?"

"Yes, Madam, all the important ones."

"But I don't remember you showing me the depreciation, and my husband told me that was one of the biggest things about a car."

Schurgin: "Well, how are you feeling this morning?"

Couch: "Much better. The only thing that troubles me is my breathing."

Schurgin: "Um—yes; we must see if we can't do something to stop that."

Preble: "Does that rich young lady of yours write convincing letters?"

Skillings: "I can't say. The case hasn't gone to the jury yet."

Garneau: "Have you any difficulty meeting your expenses?"

Mazzucco: "Not a bit. I run into them everywhere I turn."

WILSON & HALFORD

Suggest~
FUL-VUE
for you and your patients

How do you look in Ful-Vue? Chances are 10 to 1 that the new Ful-Vue frame will be more becoming to you than the one you are wearing now. Try it and see for yourself. For yourself or for your patients Wilson and Halford offer this new attractive frame on Rx Service.

**WILSON & HALFORD
OPTICAL CO.**

387 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

We Recommend Ful-Vue Frames

Bemis: "So your wife recovered, I hear the doctors made a great fight for her life."

Pride: "They did, and they almost got it, too."

Teacher: What lessons do we learn from the attack on the Dardanelles?

Kaminsky: That a strait beats 3 kings.

Bradley: "I won a loving cup last night."

Asarkoff: "I didn't know they gave cups for that."

Optometrist—You told me this car would last me as long as I lived!

Automobile Agent—Well you have been luckier than I expected.

Agreed to "Death by Hanging"

For an intelligence test several hundred university students were given legal-looking printed sheets with large space for signatures. Instructors asked the students to sign the documents and return them. Only a very few refused to sign. When those few were asked why, they pointed to the text of the "contract," which stated that the undersigned agreed to submit to execution by hanging on a definite date.

Not only students, but even hard-headed businessmen often get caught by failing to read what they sign. Better Business Bureaus have records of hundreds of cases in which people have been deceived, tricked, or defrauded just because they didn't read.



CONSIDER FUL-VUE

When you are building your own practice, you will find that there are two factors that you should consider in choosing a frame to recommend to your patients.

One of these factors concerns fitting qualities. Can these glasses be accurately fitted with ease? Do they hold adjustment? Are they comfortable to wear?

The other factor concerns appearance. Are these glasses becoming to the patient? Are they new, modern-looking, so that he will be proud of the glasses and will like to wear them?

If you consider Ful-vue, you can answer "Yes" to all of these questions. Here are the reasons:

High up position of temples prevents Ful-vue from slipping down on the nose.

Rocking pearl pads provide maximum comfort and ease of adjustment.

Temples oscillate on a bearing, eliminating necessity of constant adjustment.

Ful-vue streamline design, symmetrical eye shape, crisp engraving, and delicate pink gold color combine to make this the outstanding spectacle of the generation.

AMERICAN OPTICAL COMPANY



ORTHOGON LENSES

Fully Corrected—Wide Angle

PRESTIGE AND PROFIT BUILDERS

Prestige is increased when you prescribe ORTHOGON Lenses, your patients realize and appreciate the additional value received. ☞ ☞

Patients satisfaction, and their confidence in your skill justified, is the foundation upon which your business will prosper. ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞

MASTER Rx SERVICE is prepared to meet your every ORTHOGON requirement, whether in single vision or any type bifocal. ☞ ☞ ☞

ORTHOGONS are available in SOFT-LITE also.

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